

An Essay  
on  
Accuracy in Practice

Respectfully submitted to the

Faculty of

The Homoeopathic Medical College

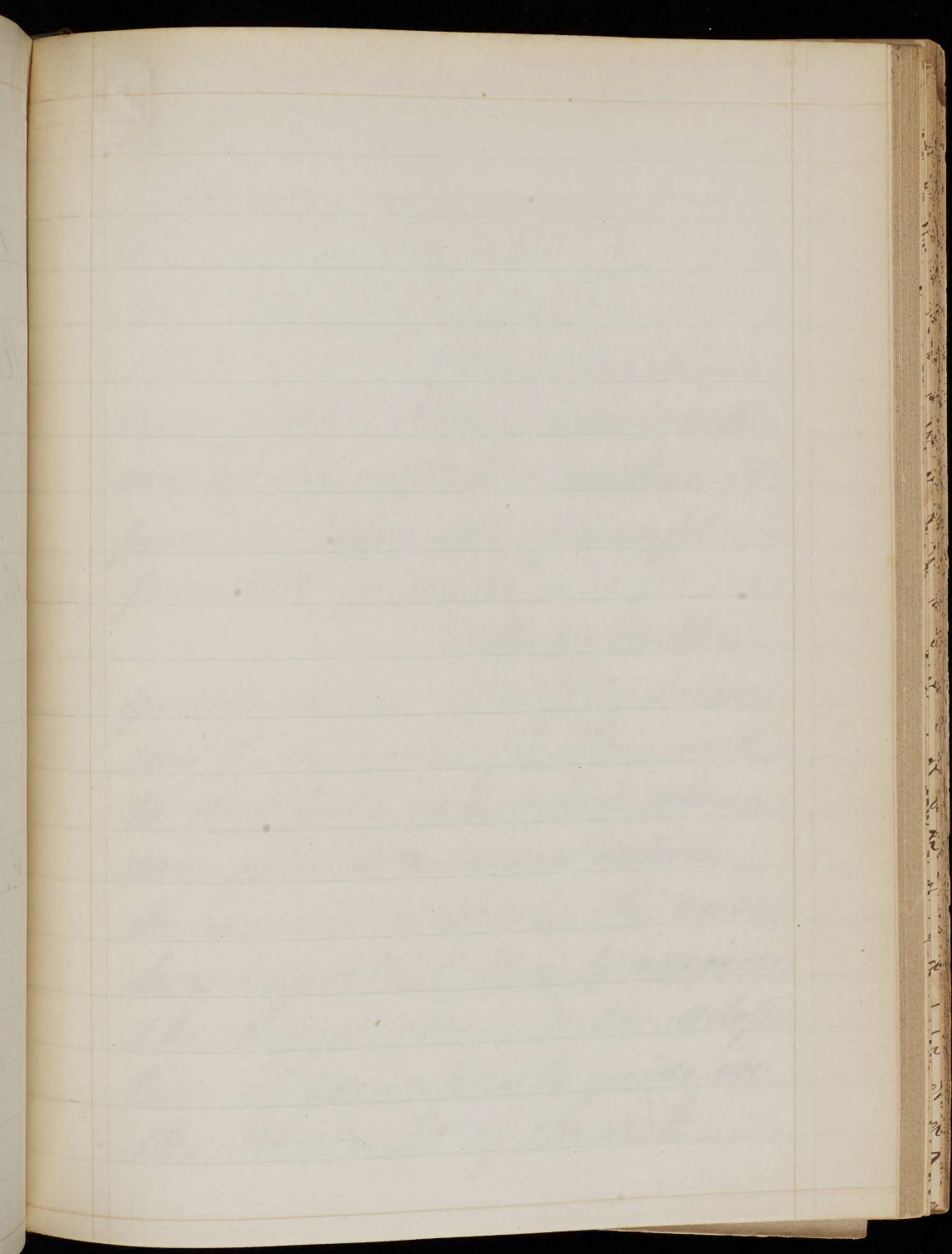
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of  
Pennsylvania



An  
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It has long since  
been settled that no correct action  
can be accomplished unless it  
proceeds from some principle  
founded in truth.

Nothing in the  
qualifications of a Physician  
can be regarded paramount  
to that principle which alone  
can guide to a correct action.  
Inasmuch as this is the case,  
how important it is to exercise  
the deepest care in the adop-  
tion of principles to guide in  
the treatment of the sick.



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There is a right way and a wrong way even of approaching the sick. The right will be likely to inspire the patient with confidence in the skill of his physician; the wrong may poison and render inefficient all succeeding efforts.

There is also a right way and a wrong way of learning the patient's malady. The right way would lead the patient into accurate descriptions of sufferings, while the wrong way may be sure to elicit a recital of imaginary ailments. And the physician may be held responsible for the manner in which the patient is misled.

There is also a right way and a wrong way of conversing with the patient about his malady; the right must always be the course which the state and condition would seem to indicate. Some patients may be benefitted by conversing with them freely concerning the disease that afflicts them and some would not; therefore it is requisite that the physician should observe keenly the peculiar temperament and state of mind of his patients before he enters into an elaboration of their diseases. —

It is right that all conversation should be avoided with patients concerning their diseases when it



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becomes evident that it produces a commotion in their nervous system. - And it is equally wrong for a practitioner to refuse such conversation when he is convinced that his patient's mind is in a state to be benefited by such conversation.

Again there is a right and a wrong way of prescribing medicines. - The right cannot fail of proving useful and the wrong can hardly fail of being hurtful. The right way is accurately based upon the law Similia Similibus. The wrong is based upon a mere guess. - The former may and will, if curable remove the most

serious malady while the latter unless it hits rightly will probably greatly injure or prove seriously detrimental or otherwise guess him out of existence. In order to be accurate it is necessary that the physician should possess an accurate knowledge of the symptoms of the disease and also an accurate knowledge of the symptoms produced by remedies, that he might be able to assimilate the identical remedy the nature of the disease requires, or in other words that he might accurately adopt the remedy according to the only well established law of cure.

Yet again it is necessary that a physician should be ac-



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<sup>curator</sup>  
in prescribing a diet for his ~~xx~~-  
patient - different diseased Con-  
ditions require a diet to corres-  
pond with them, and the duty  
of the practitioner is to study  
well the principles of diet. It  
is absolutely of the highest importance  
to be able to prescribe for the sick  
a judicious diet appropos. ~~to the~~  
to the state or condition in which  
the patient is.

It is further necessary that  
that the physician should accurately  
inspect the apartments of the  
sick, that he may note every un-  
favorable circumstance cal-  
culated to operate unfavorably  
upon the patient or abridge  
his comforts. That he may



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if possible have every unfavorable influence removed. - It is also incumbent on him to see that proper ventilation is not neglected. In brief it may be summed up thus.

1<sup>st</sup>. A physician must approach his patient in a kind, attentive, careful, and cautious manner. This should be a principle accurately observed.

2<sup>d</sup>. He should manifest no indifference in making his examination of the case; he should listen attentively to what the patient has to say and avoid any leading question that may have a tendency to mislead the patient into a belief of suffering. Not absolutely realize

8.  
3 The remedy should be chosen with great accuracy in accordance with the "law of cure."

4.<sup>th</sup> The diet should be judiciously selected - proper intervals should be noted between the meals - quantities should be specified, and the whole should be accurately observed -

5. Attention should be paid to the ventilation of the apartments of the sick, and agencies that interfere with the welfare of the patient should if possible be removed.

6. The principle of allowing no external agent used about the body during the time of taking the remedy unless ordered by the physician should be



rigidly insisted upon.

1<sup>st</sup> A principle should be adopted for every movement from the first to the last, and the principle adopted from reflection and conviction of its truth should ever after be regarded the rule to be accurately observed.

The fact is medicine requires care and accuracy in its dispensation and nothing but habits of accuracy can avail in the hands of the practitioner. And for this end, it is well for him to reflect upon every act he intends to perpetrate or that is required in his different professional relations. - let him be sure he is right then let him

"go ahead," - let him not turn  
to the right or left or swerve  
from what convictions have assured  
him of being correct on any ac-  
count whatever -

And in conclusion it may  
be remarked that an accurate  
observance of all the moral pre-  
cepts in daily intercourse among  
men, will in connection with  
habits of accuracy in the discharge  
of professional duties, ~~secure~~ not only  
acquire for the physician an  
enviable name, but <sup>a</sup> righteous  
and just reward on earth  
and a final admission  
among the just in Heaven.

Finis -